# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM GRANT

Financial Statement with Independent Auditors' Reports

For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

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#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office

We have audited the accompanying statement of grant revenues and expenditures of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office (the Office) *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant in accordance with the State of California's Department of Insurance *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant Contract for the year ended June 30, 2006. This statement is the responsibility of the Office's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and in accordance with the State of California's Department of Insurance Fraud Division "Grant Financial Audit Guidelines". Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The accompanying statement of grant revenues and expenditures was prepared for the purpose of complying with the audit requirements of the State of California's Department of Insurance Fraud Division as described in Note 1 and is not intended to be a complete presentation of the Office's revenues and expenditures.

In our opinion, the statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the grant revenues and expenditures of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant in accordance with the State of California's Department of Insurance Fraud Division for the year ended June 30, 2006, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated October 26, 2006 on our consideration of the Office's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of this report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County's Board of Supervisors, District Attorney's Office management and the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sowell & Spafford, ZZP

# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM GRANT

# Statement of Grant Revenues and Expenditures

For the Year Ended June 30, 2006

Reimbursements received/receivable	\$ 646,063
Expenditures	693,799
Salaries and benefits	
Services and supplies	82,347
Total expenditures	776,146
Excess of revenues over (under) grant expenditures	(130,083)
Fund balance (carryover), beginning of year	216,631
Fund balance (carryover), end of year	\$ 86,548

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# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM GRANT

# Notes to Financial Statement

# 1. Summary of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Description of the Reporting Entity**

The statement represents the grant revenues and expenditures of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office (the Office) *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant for the year ended June 30, 2006. The grant is pursuant to the provisions of California Insurance Code Section 1872.8 and is solely for the purposes of enhancing investigation and prosecution of automobile insurance fraud cases. The grant was funded by the State of California Department of Insurance Fraud Division and administered by the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office. The accompanying statement of grant revenues and expenditures presents only the activities of the Automobile Insurance Fraud Program Grant and is not intended to present the financial position of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office nor the County of San Bernardino itself in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Description of Grant**

The grant funds are issued pursuant to authority granted to the California Insurance Commissioner under the provisions of Section 1872.8 of the California Insurance Code, to all local district attorneys for distribution of funding for the investigation and prosecution of automobile insurance fraud cases.

The preparation of this financial statement requires management to make estimates and assumptions. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures, as well as the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Management also determines the accounting principles to be used in the preparation of the statement. A description of the significant accounting policies employed in the preparation of this statement follows:

#### Statement of Grant Revenues and Expenditures

The statement of grant revenues and expenditures presents the eligible costs charged to the *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant by the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office and the revenues received in reimbursement of those costs by the State of California Department of Insurance Fraud Division.

#### **Basis of Accounting**

Revenues and expenditures are presented on an accrual basis. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which they are incurred, that is, when goods are received or services are provided. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which the grant is awarded.

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# Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office

We have audited the statement of grant revenues and expenditures of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office (the Office) Automobile Insurance Fraud Program in accordance with the State of California's Automobile Insurance Fraud Program Grant Contract for the year ended June 30, 2006 and have issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2006. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

# **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Office's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

# Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Office's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported herein under *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Supervisors, District Attorney's Office management, and the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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# Independent Auditors' Report on State Compliance

To the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office

We have audited the statement of grant revenues and expenditures of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office (the Office) Automobile Insurance Fraud Program in accordance with the State of California Department of Insurance's Automobile Insurance Fraud Program Grant Contract for the year ended June 30, 2006 and have issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2006. Our audit was made in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards for financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and Section 1872 8 of the California Insurance Code. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The Office's management is responsible for the Office's compliance with laws and regulations. In connection with the audit referred to above, we selected and tested transactions and records to determine the Office's compliance with the state laws and regulations applicable to the following:

Expenditures were made for the purposes of the program as specified in Section 1872.8
 of the Insurance Code, the Regulations, and the guidelines in the Request for Application
 and the County Plan.

Based on our audit, we found that, for the items tested, the Office complied with the laws and regulations referred to above. Further, based on our examination, for items not tested, nothing came to our attention to indicate that the Office had not complied with state laws and regulations.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Supervisors, District Attorney's Office management, and the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sowell & Spofford, ZZP

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To the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office

We have audited the statement of grant revenues and expenditures of San Bernardino District Attorney's Office (Office) *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant for the year ended June 30, 2006 and have issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2006. Professional standards require that we provide the following information related to our audit:

# Our Responsibility Under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. Because of the concept of reasonable assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material errors, fraud, or other illegal acts may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Office's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the grant program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Office's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. Also, in accordance with the State of California's *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant, we examined on a test basis, evidence about the Office's compliance with the types of requirements described in the State of California's Insurance Fraud Program Audit Guidelines for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the Office's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the Office's compliance with those requirements.

## Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Office are described in Note 1 to the financial statement.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Office as they relate to the *Automobile Insurance Fraud Program* Grant during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

# **Accounting Estimates**

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statement prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statement and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. Estimates for amounts due from granting agencies, including the State of California are particularly sensitive to estimation in the financial statement.

### Significant Audit Adjustments

Significant audit adjustments are required to record those amounts for financial statement reporting purposes that are not recorded on the books and records for the grant. There were no such adjustments for the period ended June 30, 2006.

# Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statement or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Office's financial statement or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on that statement, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Office's grant auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

# Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all personnel within the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office for their cooperation and valuable assistance during the performance of this engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County's Board of Supervisors, District Attorney's Office management and the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sowell & Spafford, LLP